United Nations E/2011/62

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
1 February 2011

Original: English

Organizational session for 2011
18 January, 15-18 February and 27 and 28 April 2011
Agenda item 3
Basic programme of work of the Council

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975)

Proposal of amendments by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)

Note by the Secretary-General

In its decision 2009/250 of 30 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2009/78) on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[1] decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention as amended, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal.

The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a Depositary Notification[2] dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General is hereby communicating to the Council a note verbale dated 28 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Slovakia to the United Nations (see annex).

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[2] C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3.

11-22133 (E) 030211

Please recycle

Annex

Note verbale dated 28 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Slovakia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Slovakia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's Depositary Notification dated 6 April 2009 (C.N.194.2009.TREATIES-2), which communicated a proposal of amendments by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 ("the Single Convention"), and also to the Secretary-General's Depositary Notification dated 30 July 2009 (C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3), which informed the parties to the Single Convention of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to initiate the procedures established under article 47, paragraph 1 (b), of the Single Convention with regard to the proposal.

States parties to the Single Convention undertake an obligation to limit the trade and use of narcotic drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes. States parties also recognize that measures against abuse of narcotic drugs require coordinated and universal action. Schedule I to the Single Convention lists coca leaf as a narcotic drug. In considering the proposal of amendments, States parties should be guided by the object and purpose of the Single Convention.

Therefore, also taking into consideration the expert opinion presented on behalf of Slovakia, recommending a reserved attitude to the acceptance of the proposed amendment, especially in the context of the adverse health consequences that might follow, the Government of Slovakia hereby informs the Secretary-General in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1 (b), of the Single Convention, consistent with its general obligations outlined in article 4 of the Single Convention, that it does not accept the proposed amendment.